

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 16516 01 OF 02 141732Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ACDA-12 ISO-00 HA-05 OMB-01 SSO-00
NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /081 W
-----024716 141920Z /41

O 141717Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4362

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USICA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MOSCOW 16516

BONN PLEASE PASS SECRETARY'S PARTY

GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR TOON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SHUM, UR

SUBJECT: SHCHARANSKIY TRIAL ENDS WITH 13 YEAR SENTENCE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 16516 01 OF 02 141732Z

1. VERDICT. SHCHARANSKIY RECEIVED THIRTEEN YEAR
SENTENCE UNDER ARTICLE 64 (TREASON) AND SEVEN YEAR
SENTENCE UNDER ARTICLE 70 (ANTI-SOVIET AGITATION),
THE TWO TO BE SERVED CONCURRENTLY. FIRST THREE
YEARS ARE TO BE SERVED IN PRISON (ABOUT 1 1/2 OF WHICH
HE HAS ALREADY SERVED), LAST TEN IN LABOR CAMP UNDER
STRICT ("STROGOVO") REGIME. FINAL SENTENCE

THEREFORE IS TWO YEARS SHORTER THAN PROSECUTOR REQUESTED.
STRICT REGIME LABOR CAMP SENTENCE IS NOT AS HARSH AS
SPECIAL REGIME TO WHICH GINZBURG SENTENCED. FAMILY
MUST PAY 156.80 RUBLES COURT COSTS.

2. WESTERN PRESENCE. A BELGIAN DIPLOMAT JOINED U.S.
AND CANADIAN EMBOFFS TO BRING WESTERN DIPLOMATIC
PRESENCE TO ITS HIGH POINT -- THREE. MOST, IF NOT
ALL, WESTERN CORRESPONDENTS IN MOSCOW WERE ON SCENE.

3. SUPPORTERS. CROWD OF SUPPORTERS GRADUALLY SWELLED
FROM TWO WHEN LEONID ENTERED COURTHOUSE AT 10:00 A.M.
TO CLOSE TO ONE HUNDRED, INCLUDING
SAKHAROV, IN AFTERNOON.

4. ATMOSPHERE. ATMOSPHERE BECAME INCREASINGLY TENSE
AS NUMBER OF SUPPORTERS GREW AND NUMBER OF SECURITY
PERSONNEL GREW CORRESPONDINGLY. IN MIDDLE OF
AFTERNOON UNIFORMED MILITIA REPLACED THOSE IN
CIVILIAN CLOTHES BEHIND BARRICADES. LATTER DRIFTED
OUT ON STREET TO FORM SMALL GROUPS OF "CITIZEN"
ONLOOKERS. THEY WERE OBVIOUSLY UNDER STRICT ORDERS
TO BEHAVE THEMSELVES. EMBOFF OBSERVED ONLY ONE
INCIDENT OF HECKLING PRIOR TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF VERDICT
AND NONE AFTER. ONE UGLY INCIDENT OCCURRED WHEN
SECURITY OFFICER IN CIVILIAN DRESS STARTED TO HAUL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 16516 01 OF 02 141732Z

AWAY A YOUNG CHRISTIAN DISSIDENT WHO HAD COME TO
JOIN CROWD OF SUPPORTERS. SOME MEMBERS OF CROWD
SAW THE INCIDENT, BEGAN YELLING, AND THE SECURITY
OFFICER RELEASED THE MAN. IN SHORT, DESPITE STRAINED
ATMOSPHERE, SUBSTANTIAL CROWD AND SOME TENSE CON-
FRONTATIONS, SECURITY FORCES BEHAVED WITH RESTRAINT.
INSIDE COURTROOM, HOWEVER, SPECTATORS APPLAUDED
VERDICT. LEONID JUMPED UP AND YELLED "TOLYA,
THE WHOLE WORLD IS WITH YOU." GUARDS GRABBED HIM
AND WOULD NOT LET HIM SPEAK FURTHER.

5. SAKHAROV AT THE BARRICADES. TEMPER OF SECURITY
PERSONNEL NO DOUBT REACHED ITS POINT OF GREATEST
STRAIN AS VEHICLE PRESUMABLY CARRYING ANATOLIY
DEPARTED SCENE AT ABOUT 4:15 P.M. TO MASS CRIES OF
"TOLYA, TOLYA." SAKHAROV AND
SHCHARANSKIY'S MOTHER HAD BEEN STANDING AT BARRICADE
FOR PREVIOUS HALF HOUR ASKING PERMISSION FOR HER TO
ENTER. SAKHAROV TOLD GUARDS THAT MRS. MILGROM HAD RIGHT
UNDER CONSTITUTION TO HEAR VERDICT IN HER SON'S CASE.
THERE WERE A FEW CRIES OF "LET HER IN." SECURITY
PERSONNEL SAID THEY WOULD ASK FOR INSTRUCTIONS. IN

RAPID SUCCESSION, AS VEHICLE CARRYING ANATOLIY LEFT VIA OPPOSITE END OF STREET, IDA MILGROM BROKE DOWN IN TEARS, SUPPORTERS YELLED "YOU LIED, AS ALWAYS" AND SAKHAROV TOLD THEM: "YOU ARE NOT PEOPLE. YOU ARE FASCISTS. HEAR ME, A MEMBER OF THE ACADEMY OF SCIENTISTS. YOU ARE FASCISTS." (MRS. MILGROM WAS LATER PROMISED A MEETING WITH HER SON ON JULY 18.)

6. ANATOLIY'S LAST WORD. LEONID CAME OUT SHORTLY THEREAFTER AND REPORTED VERDICT. CROWD REACTED WITH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 16516 02 OF 02 141738Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ACDA-12 ISO-00 HA-05 OMB-01 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /081 W

-----024995 141754Z /41

O 141717Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4363

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USICA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 MOSCOW 16516

LITTLE SIGN OF EMOTION. SOVIET JUDICIAL PROCEDURE PROVIDES DEFENDENT LAST WORD BEFORE JUDGE AND ASSESSORS RETIRE TO CONSIDER VERDICT. REFERRING TO HIS NOTES, LEONID REPEATED ANATOLIY'S FINAL

STATEMENT:

IN MARCH AND APRIL, DURING INTERROGATIONS, THOSE
IN CHARGE OF THE INVESTIGATION WARNED ME THAT, GIVEN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 16516 02 OF 02 141738Z

THE POSITION I WAS TAKING WITH RESPECT TO THE
INVESTIGATION -- AND THAT I ADHERED TO IN COURT --
I FACED EXECUTION OR, AT THE LEAST, 15 YEARS DEPRIVA-
TION OF FREEDOM. BUT IF I AGREED TO COOPERATE WITH
THE INVESTIGATION, WITH AIM OF DESTROYING THE JEWISH
EMIGRATION MOVEMENT, THEY PROMISED I WOULD BE
RELEASED FROM PRISON QUICKLY AND SOON REUNITED WITH
MY WIFE.

FIVE YEARS AGO, I APPLIED TO EMIGRATE TO
ISRAEL. NOW, WHEN I AM FURTHER THAN EVER BEFORE FROM
MY DREAM, IT WOULD SEEM THAT I SHOULD BE SAD. BUT
THIS ABSOLUTELY IS NOT SO. I AM HAPPY THAT I HAVE
LIVED HONESTLY, AT PEACE WITH MY CONSCIENCE, AND
NEVER ACTED AGAINST MY CONSCIENCE, EVEN WHEN
THREATENED WITH DEATH. I AM HAPPY THAT I HELPED
PEOPLE. I AM PROUD THAT I WAS ACQUAINTED WITH AND
WORKED WITH HONEST AND BRAVE PEOPLE LIKE SAKHAROV,
ORLOV, GINZBURG -- CONTINUERS OF THE TRADITION OF
THE RUSSIAN INTELLIGENTSIA. I AM HAPPY TO HAVE
BEEN WITNESS TO THE PROCESS OF LIBERATION OF JEWS
FROM THE USSR. I HOPE THAT THE ABSURD ACCUSATION
AGAINST ME AND THE ENTIRE JEWISH EMIGRATION MOVEMENT
WILL NOT HINDER THE LIBERATION OF MY PEOPLE.

MY CLOSE ONES AND FRIENDS KNOW HOW MUCH I WOULD
LIKE TO EXCHANGE MY WORK AS AN ACTIVIST FOR LIFE
WITH MY WIFE AVITAL IN ISRAEL. FOR MORE THAN
2000 YEARS JEWS HAVE BEEN A MIGRATORY PEOPLE. BUT
NO MATTER WHERE THEY WERE, WHEREVER JEWS LIVED,
THEY EACH YEAR REPEATED "NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM."

NOW, WHEN I AM AS FAR AWAY AS I HAVE EVER BEEN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 16516 02 OF 02 141738Z

FROM MY PEOPLE, FROM AVITAL, AND WHEN I FACE MANY
DIFFICULT YEARS IMPRISONMENT, I SAY TO MY PEOPLE
AND TO AVITAL: "NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM."

TO THE COURT, WHICH MUST CONFIRM THE SENTENCE

EARLIER DECIDED UPON, I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY.

7. MANY IN CROWD, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN, WEPT OPENLY' REFUSENIKS BROKE INTO SONG IN HEBREW, ENDING "NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM." GRADUALLY, A PROCESSION FORMED BEHIND SAKHAROV AND SHCHARANSKIY'S MOTHER, AND REFUSENIK AND DISSIDENT SUPPORTERS WALKED AWAY FROM THE SCENE, DOWN THE MIDDLE OF A STREET LINED WITH THE CURIOUS AND THE HOSTILE, THOUGH MOSTLY SILENT, BYSTANDERS. MATLOCK

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRIALS, COURT DECISIONS, DISSIDENT FACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW16516
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780289-0628
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780759/aaaabxqz.tel
Line Count: 234
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6bed0773-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2004093
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHCHARANSKIY TRIAL ENDS WITH 13 YEAR SENTENCE CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, UR, (SHCHARANSKIY, ANATOLIY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6bed0773-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014